

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Attached for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: HANMER

Entitled: VACUUM PACKAGING OF ARTICLES

and including attachments as noted below:



Atty Dkt.: 540-190

Date: March 6, 2000

1C520 U.S. PTO
03/06/00
03/06/00
03/06/00

- Declaration, Abstract
 11 pages of specification and claims (including 5 numbered claims), and
 5 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.
 Record & return the attached assignment to the undersigned.
 Priority is hereby claimed under 35 USC 119 based on the following foreign applications, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
9905214.4	Great Britain	8 March 1999
, respectively.		
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached..		
<input type="checkbox"/> Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line --This is a _____ of PCT application _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.--		
<input type="checkbox"/> Priority is hereby claimed under 35 USC 120/365 based on the following prior PCT applications designating the U.S., the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application:		

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
<input type="checkbox"/> This application is based on the following prior provisional application(s):		
Application No.	Filing Date	

respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application, and priority is hereby claimed therefrom.

Please amend the specification by inserting before the first line: -- This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Application No. _____, filed _____, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Verified Statement attached establishing "small entity" status (Rules 9 & 27)

The Examiner's attention is directed to the prior art cited in the parent application by applicant and/or Examiner for the reasons stated therein.

Preliminary amendment to claims (attached hereto), to be entered before calculation of the fee below.

Also attached: PTO-1449 and International Search Report

FILING FEE IS BASED ON CLAIMS AS FILED LESS ANY HEREWITH CANCELED

Basic Filing Fee		\$	690.00
Total effective claims 5 - 20 (at least 20) = 0	x \$ 18.00	\$	0.00
Independent claims 2 - 3 (at least 3) = 0	x \$ 78.00	\$	0.00
If any proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$260.00 (ignore improper)		\$	0.00
		SUBTOTAL	\$ 690.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract		-\$(0.00)	
		SECOND SUBTOTAL	\$ 690.00
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)		\$	40.00
		TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED	\$ 730.00

Any future submission requiring an extension of time is hereby stated to include a petition for such time extension.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Account No. 14-1140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

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SCS:kd

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: Stanley C. Spangler, Reg. No. 27,393

Signature: